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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application No.	10/615,972
Filing Date	July 9, 2003
First Named Inventor	Kenneth S. Wales
Art Unit	3721
Examiner Name	Paul Durand

Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	END907.0511043
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner initials	Cite No.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind code ² (if known)			
P.D. I		US- 4,721,099	01-26-1998	Chikama	
		US- 5,588,581	12-31-1996	Conlon et al.	
		US- 5,673,840	10-07-1997	Schulze et al.	
		US- 5,797,536	08-25-1998	Smith et al.	
		US- 2003/045900	03-06-2003	Hahnen et al.	
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind code ⁵ (if known)				
P.D. I		EP 0 593 920 A	04-27-1994	US Surgical Corp.		
		EP 0 600 182 A	06-08-1994	US Surgical Corp.		
		WO 01/00095 A	01-04-2001	Lange		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ⁶

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EXAMINER SIGNATURE

DATE CONSIDERED

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.